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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of
 Russell M. Sampson et al.
 Application No.: NEW
 Filed: HEREWITH
 For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR
 TREATING VENOUS REFLUX

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Examiner: Unknown

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT**

121 Spear Street, Suite 290
 San Francisco, CA 94105
 (415) 512-1312

M/S PATENT APPLICATION
 Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicant(s) submit(s) herewith patents, publications or other information [attached hereto and listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 (modified)] of which they are aware, which they believe(s) may be material to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.56.

This Information Disclosure Statement:

- (a) accompanies the new patent application submitted herewith. 37 CFR § 1.97(a).
- (b) is filed within three months after the filing date of the application or within three months after the date of entry of the national stage of a PCT application as set forth in 37 CFR § 1.491.
- (c) as far as is known to the undersigned, is filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, or before a first office action after filing a Request for Continued Examination under §1.114.
- (d) is filed after the first office action and more than three months after the application's filing date or PCT national stage date of entry filing but, as far as is known to the undersigned, prior to the mailing date of either a final rejection or a notice of allowance, whichever occurs first, and is accompanied by either the fee

(\$180) set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(p) or a certification as specified in 37 CFR § 1.97(e), as checked below.

(e) is filed after the mailing date of either a final rejection or a notice of allowance, whichever occurred first, and the Issue Fee has not been paid, and is accompanied by the fee (\$130) set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(i)(1) and a certification as specified in 37 CFR § 1.97(e), as checked below. This document is to be considered as a petition requesting consideration of the information disclosure statement.

[If either of boxes (d) or (e) is checked above, the following "certification" under 37 CFR § 1.97(e) may need to be completed.] The undersigned certifies that:

(f) Each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication mailed from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

(g) No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication mailed from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

A list of the patent(s) or publication(s) is set forth on the attached Form PTO-1449 (Modified).

A copy of the items on PTO-1449 (Modified) is supplied herewith, except as noted below.

Those patent(s) or publication(s) which are marked with an asterisk (*) in the attached form PTO-1449 (Modified) are not supplied because they are (a) either U.S. Patents and this an application filed after June 30, 2003, or (b) were previously cited by or submitted to the Office in a prior application no. 10/052,157, filed January 16, 2002, and relied upon in this application for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120.

A concise explanation of relevance of the items listed on form PTO-1449 (Modified) is:

(k) not given

(l) given for each listed item

(m) given for only non-English language listed item(s) [Required]

(n) is in the form of an English language copy of a Search Report from a foreign patent office, issued in a counterpart application, which refers to the relevant portions of the references [copy attached].

The Examiner is reminded that a "concise explanation of the relevance" of the submitted items "may be nothing more than identification of the particular figure or paragraph of the patent or publication which has some relation to the claimed invention," MPEP § 609.

While the information and references disclosed in this Information Disclosure Statement may be "material" pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.56, it is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56(a) exists. It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR § 1.98 and MPEP § 609 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

Respectfully submitted,

STALLMAN & POLLOCK LLP

Dated: October 1, 2003

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>	Docket Number (Optional) ENVS-1310		Application Number NEW
	Applicant(s) Russell M. Sampson et al.		
	Filing Date HEREWITH	Group Art Unit Unknown	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
*AA	5,047,028	09/10/1991	Qian	606	49		05/03/1990
*AB	5,078,717	01/07/1992	Parins et al.	606	48		09/10/1990
*AC	5,405,322	04/11/1995	Lennox et al.	604	53		08/12/1993
*AD	5,588,961	12/31/1996	Leone et al.	604	21		01/05/1996
*AE	5,609,598	03/11/1997	Laufer et al.	606	142		12/30/1994
*AF	5,730,136	03/24/1998	Laufer et al.	128	661.08		10/16/1996
*AG	5,810,847	09/22/1998	Laufer et al.	606	142		03/06/1997
*AH	5,938,660	08/17/1999	Swartz et al.	606	45		06/27/1997
*AI	6,014,589	01/11/2000	Farley et al.	607	98		11/12/1997
*AJ	6,033,397	03/07/2000	Laufer et al.	606	27		09/26/1996
*AK	6,036,687	03/14/2000	Laufer et al.	606	27		03/05/1996
*AL	6,071,277	06/06/2000	Farley et al.	606	27		07/01/1997
*AM	6,077,257	06/20/2000	Edwards et al.	604	506		09/20/1996
*AN	6,117,101	09/12/2000	Diederich et al.	604	22		11/25/1998
*AO	6,135,997	10/24/2000	Laufer et al.	606	27		11/16/1998
*AP	6,139,527	10/31/2000	Laufer et al.	604	114		09/26/1996
*AQ	6,152,899	11/28/2000	Farley et al.	604	113		07/17/1997
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*AS	6,179,832	01/30/2001	Jones et al.	606	32		08/21/1998
*AT	6,200,312	03/13/2001	Zikorus et al.	606	32		09/11/1997
*AU	6,231,507	05/15/2001	Zikorus et al.	600	437		06/02/1997
*AV	6,237,606	05/29/2001	Zikorus et al.	128	898		03/10/1999
*AW	6,258,084	07/10/2001	Goldman et al.	606	32		03/10/1999
*AX	6,263,248	07/17/2001	Farley et al.	607	98		09/10/1999
*AY	6,322,559	11/27/2001	Daulton et al.	606	41		07/06/1998
*AZ	6,485,500	11/26/2002	Kokish et al.	606	194		03/21/2000
*BA	6,238,393	05/29/2001	Mulier et al.	606	41		07/06/1999

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	No
*BB	DE 40 01 086 A1	01/17/1990	Germany	A61B	17/22		X
*BC	WO 99/58070	11/18/1999	PCT	A61B	17/39		
*BD	WO 01/97897 A1	12/27/2001	PCT	A61M	29/00		

OTHER DOCUMENTS *(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)*

Examiner	Date Considered
Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	